

Remarks Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Extension of Time

A petition for a one month extension of the period for response to the June 28, 2004 action is enclosed. The extended period for response expires on October 29, 2004.

Claim Status

Claims 1-23 were presented in this application. Claims 1, 3, 14, and 20 are amended. Claims 24-26 are added. Hence, after entry of this amendment, claims 1-26 are pending.

Drawing Objections

Figures 1, 3 and 5 are objected to because the text does not fit in the corresponding text boxes. In response, figures 1, 3 and 5 are amended so that all text fits in the corresponding text boxes. Three replacement sheets and three annotated sheets showing changes are enclosed herewith.

Claim Objections – 37 CFR 1.75(c)

Claim 20 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being an improper multiple dependent claim. In response, claim 20 is amended to remove the dependency on claim 11.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation “authenticating information adding means.” This rejection is not understood. The limitation is a properly recited claim element in Claims 1-23, and finds full support throughout the specification of the present application including page 20, lines 20-30 and Figure 1. Accordingly, applicant traverses this rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Schumacher (USPN 6,269,446 B1). Applicant submits that claims 1-23, as

amended, recite limitations that are not disclosed by Schumacher. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims is requested.

Schumacher authenticates events and images from digital cameras with GPS-derived data by deriving a digital signature based on both coded GPS data and the image data and by storing the digital signature in a header for a file with the image data. A message digest is derived from the image data together with the GPS-derived data, such as time stamp data and location data. The message digest may also include camera information data, such as serial number of the camera, size information, and exposure information. See Schumacher: Col. 1, lines 66-67 and Col. 2, lines 1-12. The Action asserts that this camera information data meets the limitation of "adding personal information."

Independent claim 1, as amended, requires that the personal information include at least one of user ID information and/or password information. This limitation finds support in the present application on page 20, lines 12-30. In the present application, different user IDs are assigned to individual users and stored in the personal information storing means. Each user ID is checked and authenticated by the information authenticating apparatus. Schumacher contains no corresponding teaching or suggestion, and therefore does not anticipate claim 1.

Independent claim 3, as amended, requires transmitting data containing authenticating information to an authenticating station for further authentication of the data, and independent claim 14, as amended, requires an authenticating system for authenticating data comprising an information authenticating apparatus and an authenticating station. Since the authenticating station is an independent entity, the user of the information authenticating apparatus is less able to forge the data after the data is processed with digital signing by the authenticating station. This improves the reliability of the data.

Schumacher contains no such disclosure. Schumacher is directed to authenticating images with a GPS unit 30 connected to a digital camera 10 via link

40 as shown in Figure 1, and does not disclose or suggest authenticating images with an authenticating station as recited in the claims of the present application.

New Claims

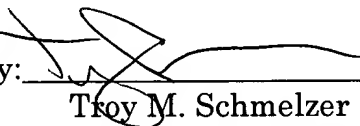
New dependent claim 24 recites that the data input may include image data, audio and music data, document data, and waveform data (see specification, page 5, lines 28-30) Claim 24 is added to further define this feature of the present application, which Schumacher does not disclose or suggest. New dependent claim 25 recites that the environmental conditions that are measured may include the surrounding temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, gas concentration, wind velocity, altitude, sound volume, and light intensity (see specification page 22, lines 1-3). New dependent claim 26 adds to independent claim 3 the limitations relating to user ID and password information, as previously discussed with respect to claim 1.

Conclusion

This application is now believed to be in form for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due in connection with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: October 8, 2004

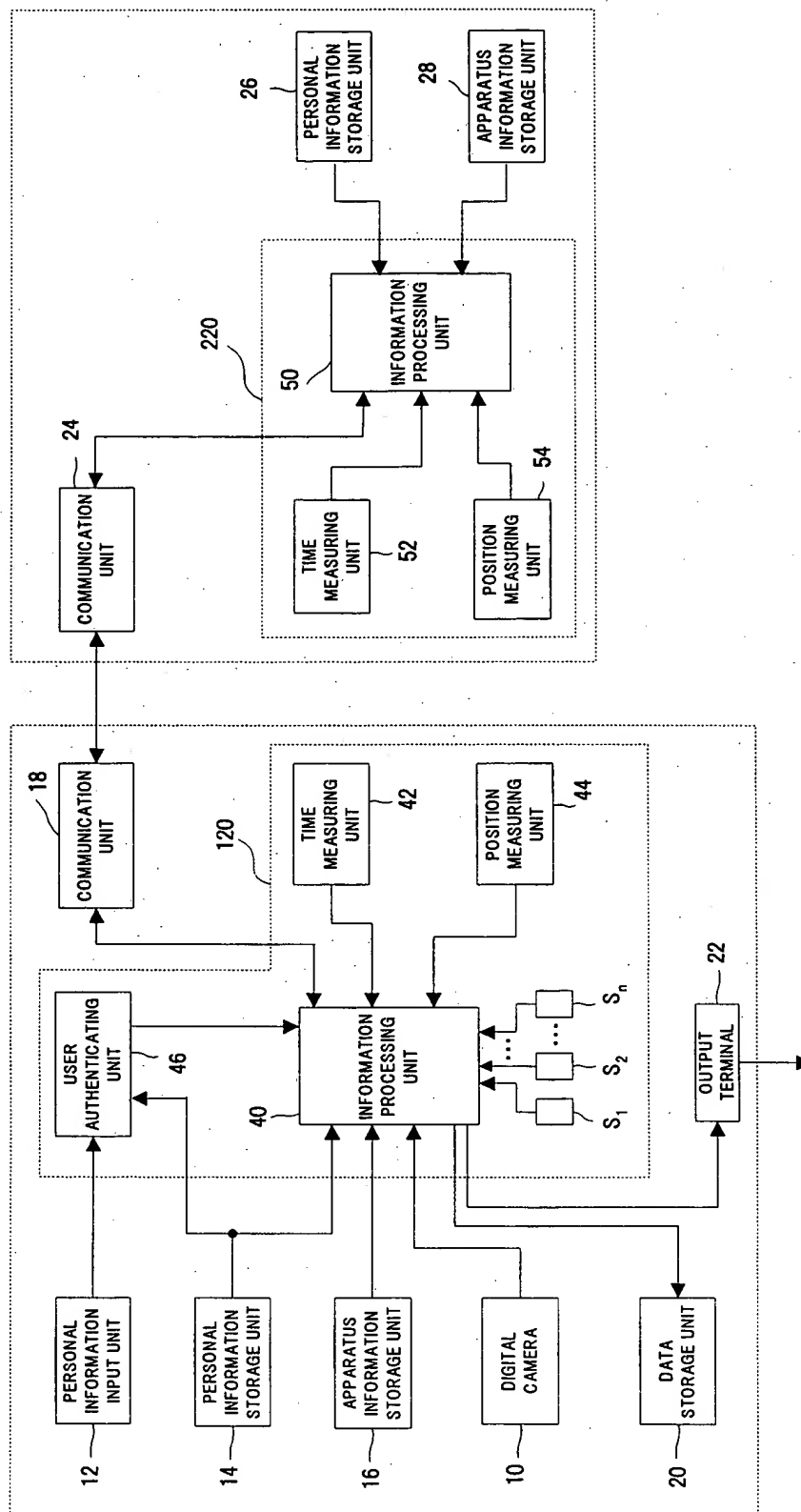
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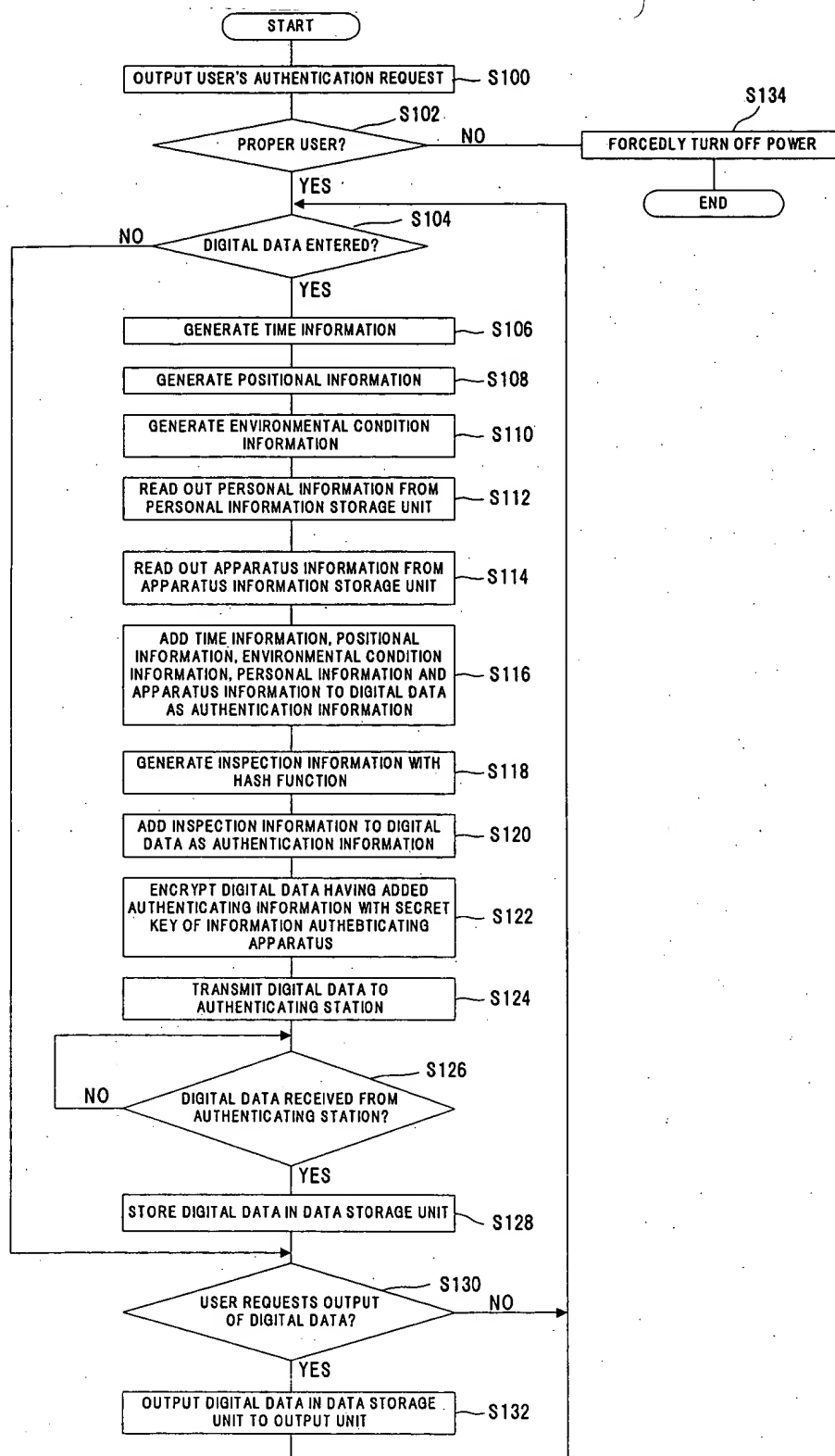
[FIG. 1]

100 INFORMATION AUTHENTICATION APPARATUS
200 AUTHENTICATING STATION

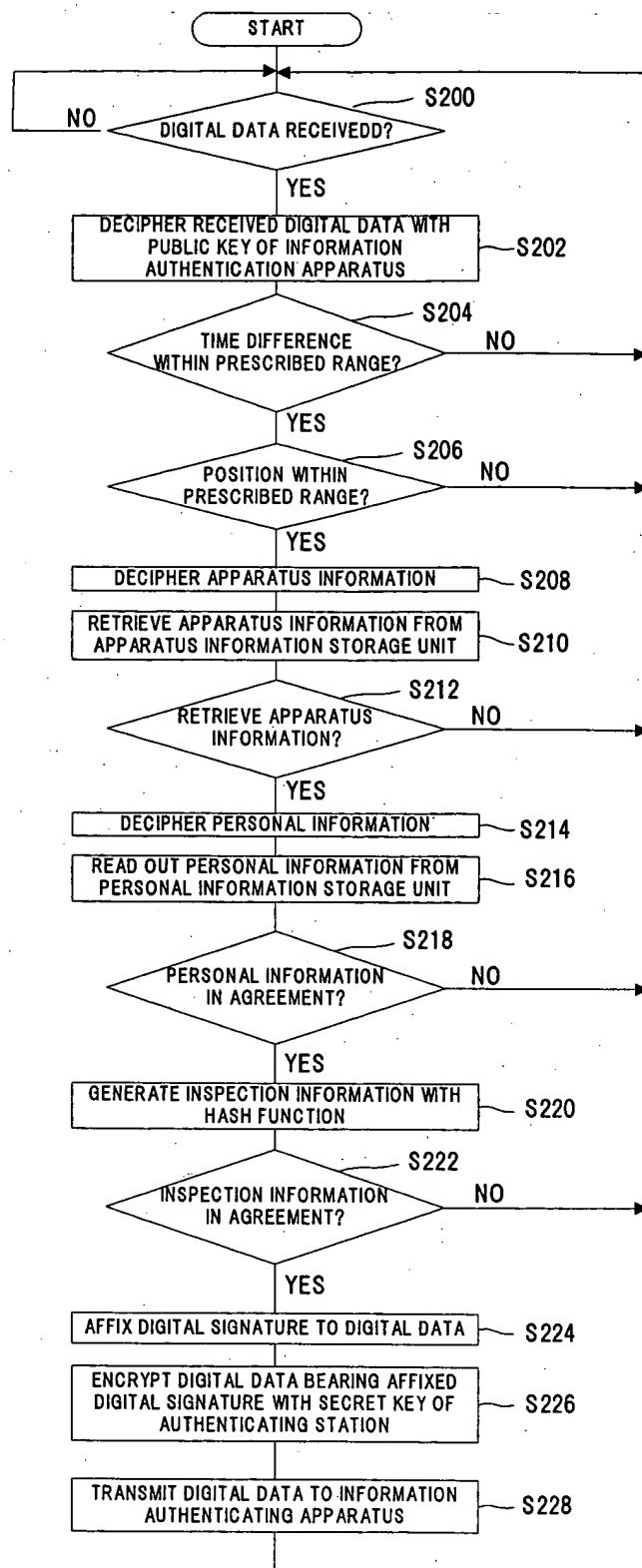




[FIG. 3]



[FIG.5]

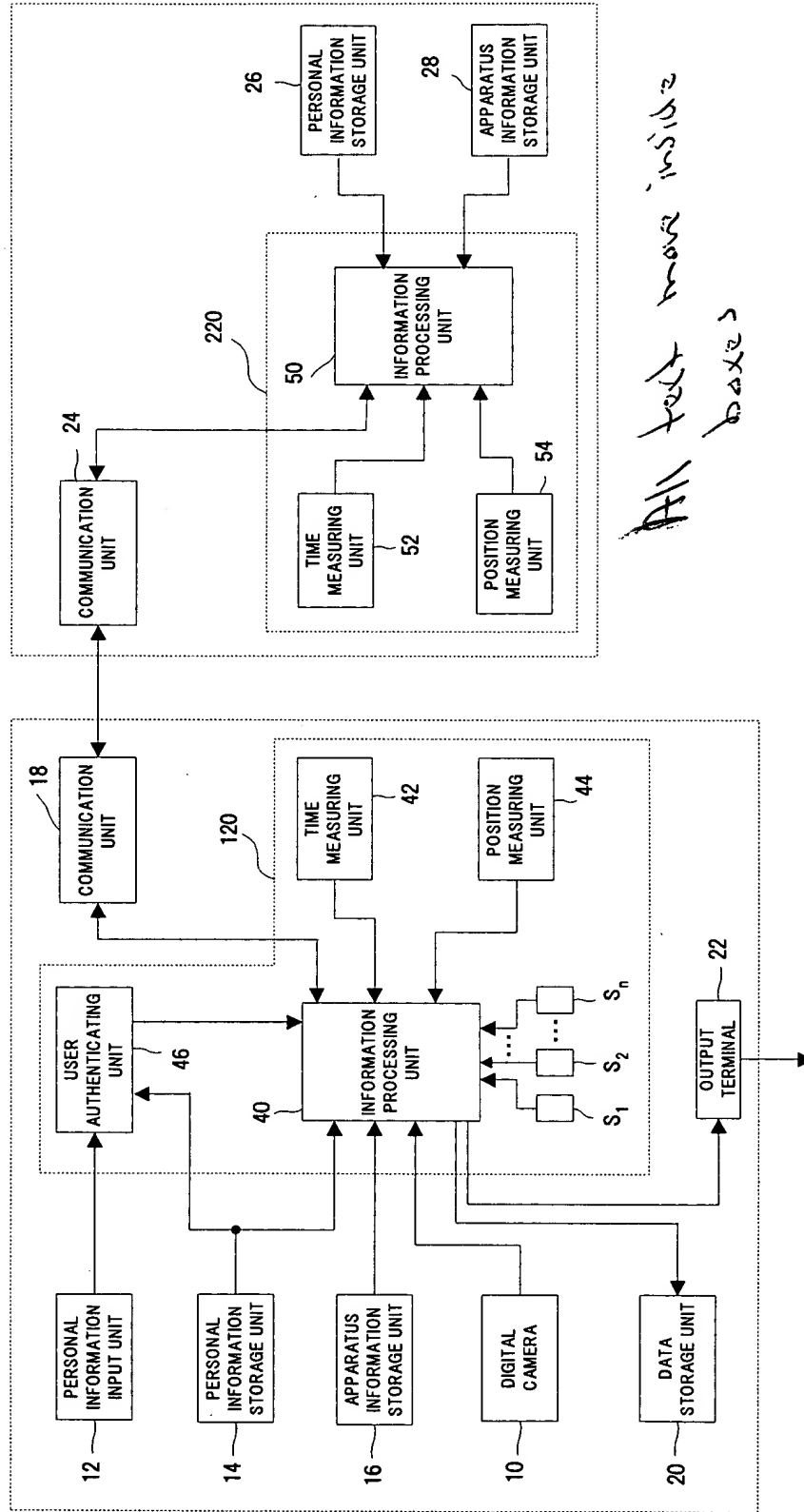




[FIG.1]

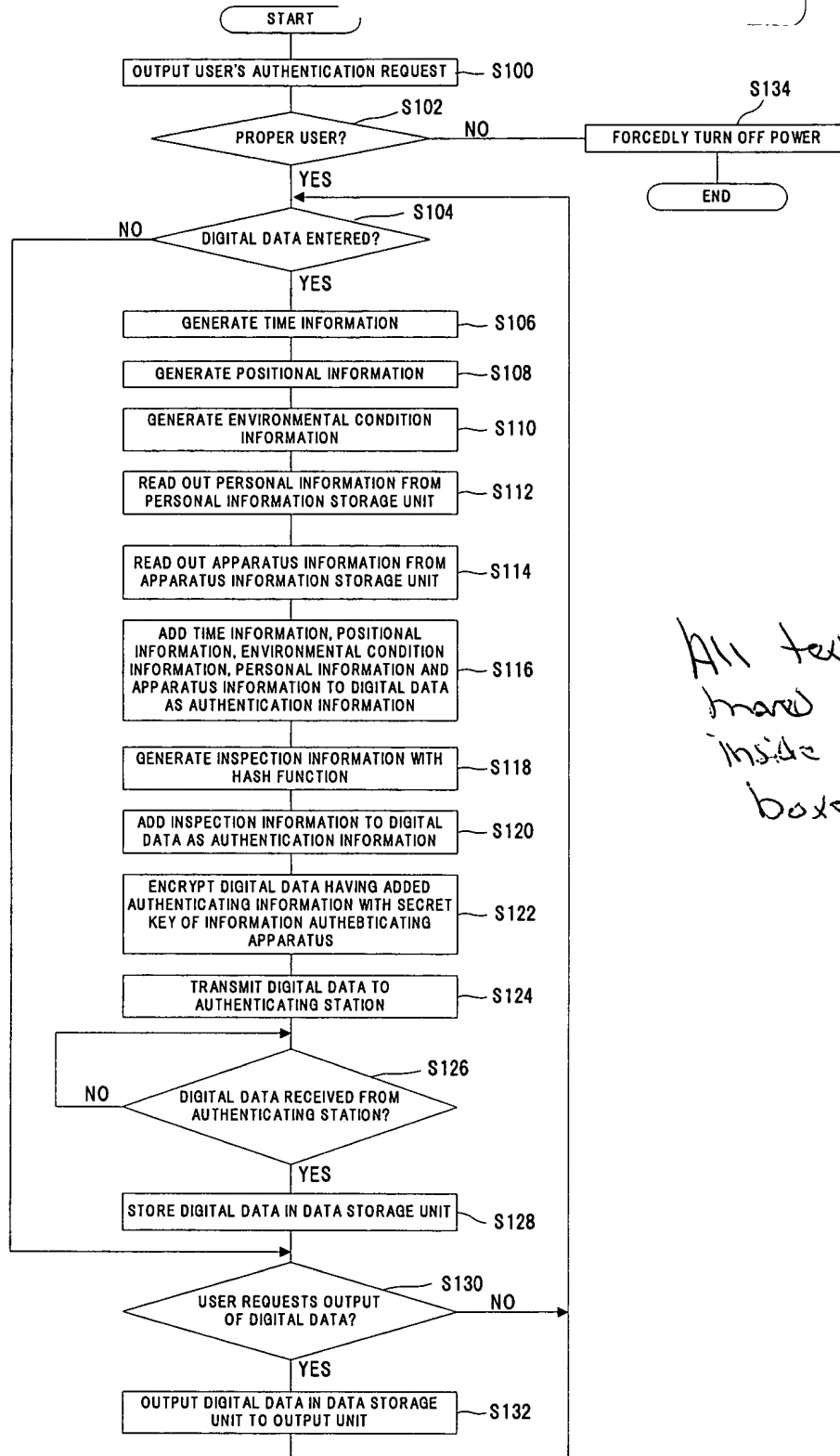
100 INFORMATION AUTHENTICATION APPARATUS

200 AUTHENTICATING STATION





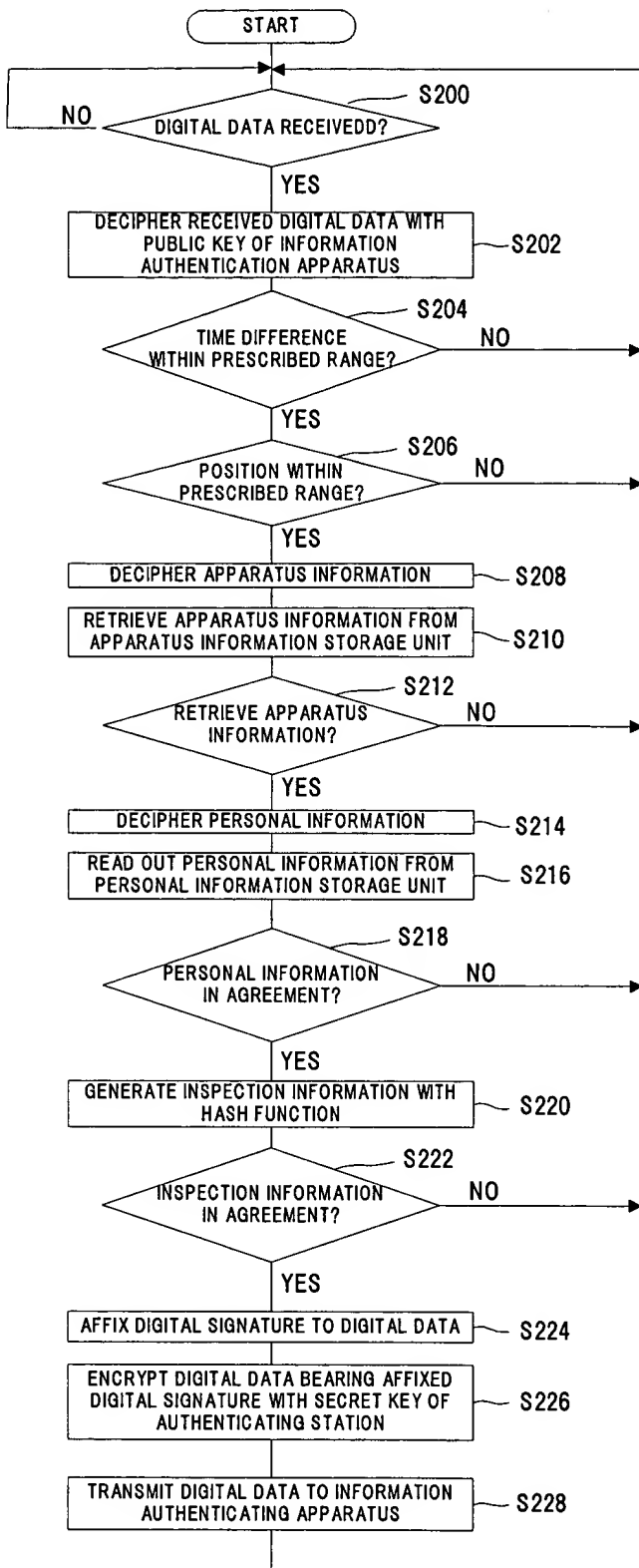
[FIG.3]



All text
moved
inside
boxes



[FIG.5]



All text moved inside boxes